

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Commissioner
 US Department of Commerce
 United States Patent and Trademark
 Office, PCT
 2011 South Clark Place Room
 CP2/5C24
 Arlington, VA 22202
 ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 19 June 2001 (19.06.01)	To:
International application No. PCT/US00/23704	Applicant's or agent's file reference 55037PCT1A
International filing date (day/month/year) 29 August 2000 (29.08.00)	Priority date (day/month/year) 13 September 1999 (13.09.99)
Applicant YOKOYAMA, Chikafumi et al	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:

06 March 2001 (06.03.01)

in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:

2. The election was

was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer P. BOCCARD (Fax 338.87.40) Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 55037PCT1A	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/US 00/ 23704	International filing date (day/month/year) 29/08/2000	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 13/09/1999
Applicant 3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

- the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).
- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :
- contained in the international application in written form.
 - filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 - furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
 - furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
 - the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
 - the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. **Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).**

3. **Unity of invention is lacking (see Box II).**

4. With regard to the **title**,

- the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

BARRIER RIB FORMATION ON SUBSTRATE FOR PLASMA DISPLAY PANELS AND MOLD
THEREFORE

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

- the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

- as suggested by the applicant.
- because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.
- because this figure better characterizes the invention.

3

- None of the figures.

Box III TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

A method of producing a substrate (12) for a plasma display panel, which comprises the steps of:

contacting a rib precursor composition (32) containing a first photo-setting initiator having a first absorption edge and a first photo-setting component, closely with a base (12);

filling a mold (30), obtained by photo-setting of a second photo-setting component in a presence of a second photo-setting initiator having a second absorption edge whose wavelength is shorter than that corresponding to the first absorption edge of the first photo-setting initiator, with the rib precursor composition (32);

irradiating the rib precursor composition (32) with light having a wavelength longer than that corresponding to the second absorption edge to set the rib precursor composition (32), thereby forming a rib (34) on the base (12); and

removing the mold (30) from the resulting base (12) on which the rib (34) is formed.

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

REC'D 15 FEB 2002

EPO

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference F 1216 PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
International application No. PCT/US00/23704	International filing date (day/month/year) 29/08/2000	Priority date (day/month/year) 13/09/1999	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H01J9/24			
Applicant 3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY et al.			

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I Basis of the report
- II Priority
- III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV Lack of unity of invention
- V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI Certain documents cited
- VII Certain defects in the international application
- VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 06/03/2001	Date of completion of this report 13.02.2002
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority: European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized officer de la Cal Heusch, E Telephone No. +49 89 2399 2008



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/US00/23704

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):
Description, pages:

1-17 as originally filed

Claims, No.:

1-10 as originally filed

Drawings, sheets:

1/3-3/3 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- contained in the international application in written form.
- filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages:
- the claims, Nos.:

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/US00/23704

the drawings, sheets:

5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes:	Claims 1-7 and 9-10
	No:	Claims 8
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims 1-7
	No:	Claims 8-10
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims 1-10
	No:	Claims

2. Citations and explanations
see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/US00/23704

Re Item V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

Reference is made to the following documents:

- D1: WO 99/10909 A and corresponding EP 0 935 275 A1
- D2: EP 0 196 033 A2 (copy attached)
- D3: WO 00 58990 A (YOKOYAMA CHIKAFUMI ;MINNESOTA MINING & MFG (US)).Publication date :5 October 2000; filing date 16 February 2000; priority date: 25 March 1999.

1. The methods defined in claims 1-7 of the present application can be considered as novel and inventive (Article 33(2) and (3) PCT) for the following reasons:

Using a rib precursor in a method for producing a substrate for plasma display panels comprising two types of photosetting initiators with different absorption edges to selectively synthesise the ribs of the substrate is neither disclose nor even suggested in any prior art documents.

Although claim 2 is inventive since it depends on claim 1, the final part, "*thereby setting the rib precursor composition*", is not clear for the following reasons:

- From the description (p. 11, l. 20-31) it is clear that the selective radiation and therefore its effect only affects the peripheral region, which certainly is one of the characterising features of claim 2. However the wording "*setting the rib precursor*" seems to indicate that the whole rib precursor is affected. The term "*rib precursor*" is defined in claim 1, to which claim 2 refers, as the material which fills the whole mold, i.e. the peripheral and the central region.

Adding the term "*in the peripheral region*" at the end of the claim would overcome this unclarity.

- The consequence of irradiating the peripheral region is that "...*the rib molded article is adhered to the mold by the photosetting reaction between the second setting component in the mold and the first setting component in the rib precursor*

composition and thus the rib molded article at the peripheral region of the back plate is removed together with the mold." (p. 11, l. 26-30). The phrase "*setting the rib precursor*" used in the claim is unclear, because it does not reflect the characteristic effect that the rib precursor in the peripheral region is adhered to the mold so that it is removed when removing the mold. The term "*setting*" (not used in the description) does not describe this feature, since the rib precursor could be "*set*" without being adhered to the mold. In addition not only the rib precursor will be "*set*" when irradiating with light with a wavelength shorter than that corresponding to the second absorption edge, but also the mold (see claim 1). This unclarity can be overcome by specifying the effect of adhering of the rib precursor to the mold at the peripheral region.

2. The subject-matter of claim 8 does not meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of novelty and/or inventive step, the reasons being as follows:

A lack of clarity arises in claim 8 because the claim does not define its subject-matter only in terms of technical features of the mould as such. On the contrary, features which depend on the particular use of this mould are used for the definition of the mould. For example, the feature 'photo-setting initiator having an absorption edge whose wavelength is shorter than a wavelength corresponding to said first absorption edge of said first photo-setting initiator' is not a clear and distinguishing feature of the mould; instead, it depends on the material to be filled into the recesses of the mould.

The intended limitations for the mould are therefore not clear from claim 8 (Article 6 PCT). The mould as such must not be defined by features which depend on the particular use of this mould. In order to assess novelty and inventive step of claim 8, features such as 'photo-setting initiator having an absorption edge whose wavelength is shorter than a wavelength corresponding to said first absorption edge of said first photo-setting initiator' are therefore neglected.

Consequently, the mould according to claim 8 is only defined by being a mould for fabricating a plasma display panel comprising a base and a rib, which mould is obtained by photo-setting a photo-setting component in the presence of a photo-

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/US00/23704

setting initiator.

However, such a mould is not novel (see e.g. p. 5, l. 31-34 of D1) or at least strongly suggested for the following reasons:

A mould formed of silicone for fabricating a plasma display panel comprising a base and a rib is known from D1 (see Example 9 of D1).

A person skilled in the art of mould fabrication knows various mould fabrication processes including the photo fabrication of master relief patterns as disclosed in D2 (see Figs. 3-7 and related text of D2). The material used for forming this master comprises a photo-setting component and a photo-setting initiator (see p. 10, l. 5 to p. 12, l. 7 and p. 15, l. 1 to p. 17, l. 4 of D2). Therefore, a skilled person knowing the documents D1 and D2 would arrive at the mould as defined in claim 8 without the exercise of inventive skill.

3. Dependent claims 9 and 10 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of claim 8 to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of inventive step (see e.g. p. 4, l. 14-34 of D2).

4. The subject-matter of claims 1 and 3-10 is disclosed in D3 (see claims 1-8 in D3). D3 is an earlier WO application published after the present filing date.

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau(43) International Publication Date
22 March 2001 (22.03.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 01/20636 A1(51) International Patent Classification⁷: H01J 9/24,
17/16, 17/49

Chikafumi [JP/JP]; 6-25-30, Minami-Kurihara, Zama-shi, Kanagawa 225-0015 (JP). SUGIMOTO, Takaki [JP/JP]; 15-12, Komaicho 3-chome, Komae-shi, Tokyo 201-0016 (JP). YODA, Akira [JP/JP]; 3-9-19, Ogawa, Machida-city, Tokyo 194-0003 (JP).

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US00/23704

(74) Agents: PECHMAN, Robert, J. et al.; 3M Innovative Properties Company, Office of Intellectual Property Counsel, P.O. Box 33427, Saint Paul, MN 55133-3427 (US).

(22) International Filing Date: 29 August 2000 (29.08.2000)

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AT (utility model), AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, CZ (utility model), DE, DE (utility model), DK, DK (utility model), DM, DZ, EE, EE (utility model), ES, FI, FI (utility model), GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KR (utility model), KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SK (utility model), SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

(25) Filing Language: English

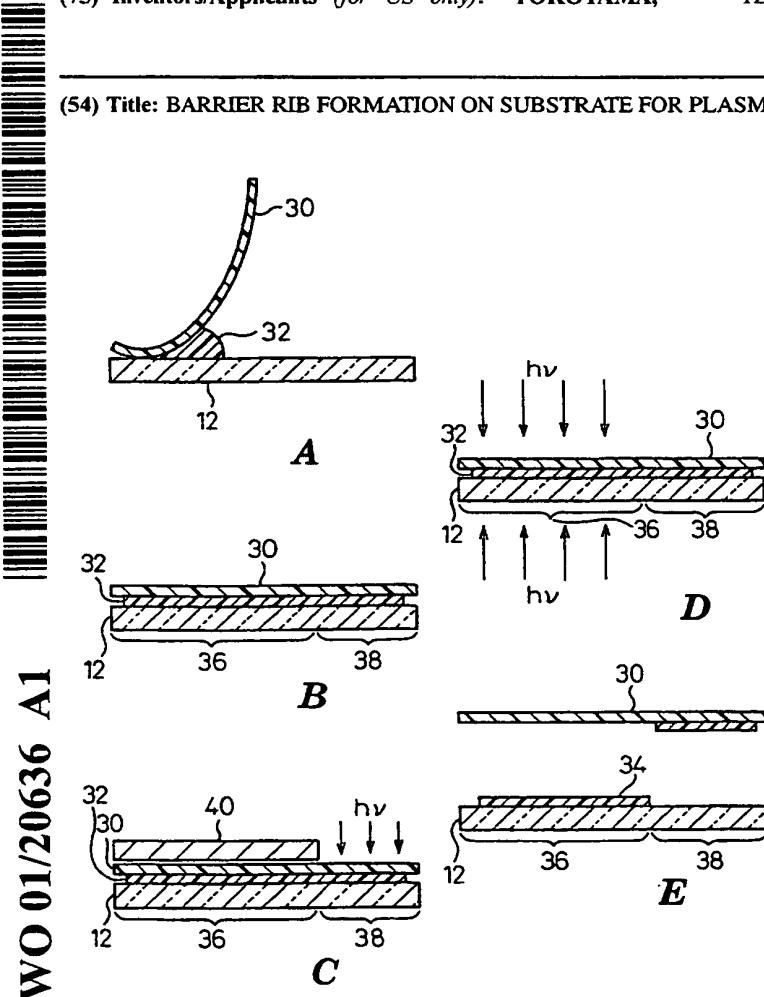
(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
11/259318 13 September 1999 (13.09.1999) JP*[Continued on next page]*(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): 3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY [US/US]; 3M Center, P.O. Box 33427, Saint Paul, MN 55133-3427 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): YOKOYAMA,

(54) Title: BARRIER RIB FORMATION ON SUBSTRATE FOR PLASMA DISPLAY PANELS AND MOLD THEREFOR



(57) Abstract: A method of producing a substrate (12) for a plasma display panel, which comprises the steps of: contacting a rib precursor composition (32) containing a first photo-setting initiator having a first absorption edge and a first photo-setting component closely with a base (12); filling a mold (30), obtained by photo-setting of a second photo-setting component in a presence of a second photo-setting initiator having a second absorption edge whose wavelength is shorter than that corresponding to the first absorption edge of the first photo-setting initiator, with the rib precursor composition (32); irradiating the rib precursor composition (32) with light having a wavelength longer than that corresponding to the second absorption edge to set the rib precursor composition (32), thereby forming a rib (34) on the base (12); and removing the mold (30) from the resulting base (12) on which the rib (34) is formed.

WO 01/20636 A1



(84) **Designated States (regional):** ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— *With international search report.*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

/US 00/23704

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 H01J9/24 H01J17/16 H01J17/49

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 H01J

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
E	WO 00 58990 A (YOKOYAMA CHIKAFUMI ;MINNESOTA MINING & MFG (US)) 5 October 2000 (2000-10-05) claims 1-9 ---	1,3-10
A	FR 2 738 393 A (KYOCERA CORP) 7 March 1997 (1997-03-07) page 20, line 25 -page 21, line 24; figure 8 ---	1
A	EP 0 837 486 A (HITACHI LTD) 22 April 1998 (1998-04-22) column 6, line 51 -column 7, line 11; figure 10 ---	1 -/-



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

13 December 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

20/12/2000

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

US 00/23704

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1997, no. 10, 31 October 1997 (1997-10-31) & JP 09 147751 A (TOPPAN PRINTING CO LTD), 6 June 1997 (1997-06-06) abstract ----	1, 2
A	EP 0 935 275 A (TORAY INDUSTRIES) 11 August 1999 (1999-08-11) page 6, line 31 - line 54 -----	1

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

[REDACTED]/US 00/23704

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
WO 0058990	A 05-10-2000	NONE		
FR 2738393	A 07-03-1997	JP JP JP JP JP US	9147754 A 9134676 A 9259754 A 9265905 A 10021839 A 6023130 A	06-06-1997 20-05-1997 03-10-1997 07-10-1997 23-01-1998 08-02-2000
EP 0837486	A 22-04-1998	JP WO	10188793 A 9818146 A	21-07-1998 30-04-1998
JP 09147751	A 06-06-1997	NONE		
EP 0935275	A 11-08-1999	JP CN WO JP JP	11339668 A 1237271 T 9910909 A 11135025 A 2000048714 A	10-12-1999 01-12-1999 04-03-1999 21-05-1999 18-02-2000